

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. M: 35/94

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Moxley-Sprenger House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 3708 Thornapple Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Chevy Chase \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state Maryland county Montgomery

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Michael Shulman and Jacqueline Judd

street & number 3708 Thornapple Street telephone no:

city, town Chevy Chase state and zip code Maryland 20815

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Court-house Tax Map and Parcel HN342; Lot 14, Bl. 1

city, town Rockville state Maryland Liber and Folio 11803/0796

### 6. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Individually Listed in the National Register
- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ HSR or Research report at MHT
- ☐ Other:

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## 7. Description

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### Condition

☒ excellent    ☐ deteriorated  
☐ good        ☐ ruins  
☐ fair         ☐ altered

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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count:

See attached.

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The Moxley-Sprenger House is significant as one of three similar Colonial Revival/Four Square style houses built by Rosalier Moxley in Otterbourne at the end of the nineteenth century.

Located on the south side of Thornapple Street (formerly Percy Street) facing north, the 2-1/2 story, 5-bay house has a slate hipped roof and the walls are covered with asbestos siding. Windows are 1/1 sash. The original full-width porch has been replaced with brick front steps and a metal railing. The front door and pedimented door frame do not appear to be original.

The house remains on its original site, Lot 14, Block 1, consisting of 6,250 square feet.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Deed TD 6:211.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology- prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1899

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

and/or

Applicable Exceptions: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

### HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-19

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Individual

Category:

Residential

Historic Environment:

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Residential

Known Design Source:

## CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35/94 Moxley-Sprenger House (1899)  
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In November 1898 Rosalier Moxley purchased Lot 14, Block 1 from John Frank Ellis, one of the four original developers of Otterbourne. The house was built by the following year when the property was assessed with improvements valued at \$1,500.<sup>2</sup>

Moxley sold the property in July 1901 to Francis Sharp. In August 1901 Julia E. E. Sharp, wife of Francis, is described as an Otterbourne resident. At that time Lot 14 was the only property owned by the Sharps in this community, although they subsequently owned two other houses in Otterbourne, 3706 and 3712 Thornapple Street.<sup>3</sup> In December 1901 the Sharps sold the property to Julia Louisa Sprenger, wife of Walter J. Sprenger. The Sprengers moved from Washington to Maryland by 1902, according to Washington and Suburban directories. In 1904 Catesby A. and Marie A. Jones acquired the house and lot and resided here for more than 25 years. A native of New York, Catesby was a department store accountant.<sup>4</sup>

Otterbourne is a subdivision established in the Chevy Chase area by four investors: Robert E. Earll, Eugene B. Clark, Raymond Geare, and John Frank Ellis. The men purchased 14.4 acres from the Williams family in 1892, two years after the Chevy Chase Land Company purchased land to the south and west. For convenience, the plat for Otterbourne was filed under Ellis' name. The H-shaped plat was made in July 1894, oriented toward Brookville Road, an important early transportation route. The investors divided the lots among themselves, each one receiving a number equivalent to their respective interest in the original tract of land. Clark and Earll were the only two of the four to build and reside in Otterbourne.<sup>5</sup>

Otterbourne investors clearly saw the advantage of the property's location immediately adjacent to the Land Company's development. The name Otterbourne is a reference to the medieval Ballad of Chevy Chase, which had been the origin for the name of the Chevy Chase Land Company's real estate enterprise. It was on the plains of Otterbourne in Scotland that the armies of Lord James Douglas and Sir Henry Percy met in their fabled battle. Otterbourne benefitted from its close proximity to the Rock Creek Railway (1890), which ran along the newly

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<sup>2</sup>Tax Assessment Records, Series T221, Annapolis, Maryland.

<sup>3</sup>See MHT forms M:35/92 and M:35/93, M-NCPPC.

<sup>4</sup>Deeds TD 19:222, 2/28/1901; TD 23:81, 1902. U.S. Census, 1910 and 1920. Washington Directories, 1908, 1909. Suburban Directories, 1912, 1915, 1927. Deed TD 17:466, Lot 15, 9/16/1901.

<sup>5</sup>Equity Case #2400, 8-24-1908, describes the history of Otterbourne and its investors.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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established Connecticut Avenue. Early residents had access to the trolley by way of a boardwalk from Delaware Street (formerly Dalkeith) to Connecticut Avenue. Otterbourne was absorbed into Section 5, and by the 1920s the east-west cross streets were extended out to Connecticut Avenue and Percy Street was renamed Thornapple Street.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Gwen Wright et al. "Chevy Chase, Maryland, Survey District: Survey Report: Phase Two," Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, June 1997. Otterbourne Plat, Plat Book 1: Page 1 [Filed July 9, 1894]. William Offutt, History of Bethesda, pp. 173-4.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M: 35/94

See attached

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 6,250 Sq. Ft.

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Clare Lise Cavicchi, Historic Preservation Planner		
organization	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission	date	1/98
street & number	8787 Georgia Avenue	telephone	301-563-3400
city or town	Silver Spring	state	Maryland 20910-3760

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Caldwell, S. D. *Directory of Bethesda District* (Bethesda, Md), 1911 and 1915.  
Nelson, Justus C. *Nelson's Suburban Directory* (Washington, D.C.), 1912-1913.  
Polk, R. L. *Polk's Washington Suburban Directory* (Washington, D.C.) 1927-1928.

Equity Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.

Fisher, Thos. J. *Chevy Chase for Homes*. Washington, D.C.: Thos. J. Fisher & C., 1916.

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#### Maps:

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Deets and Maddox. *Real Estate Atlas*, 1917.  
Fava Naeff. *Real Estate Map of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad*, 1890.  
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Martenet and Bond. *Map of Montgomery County, Maryland*, 1865.  
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Proctor, John Clagett. *Washington, Past and Present: A History*. Including Biographical Sketches of Prominent Citizens. New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1930.

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#### Secondary Sources:

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CONTINUATION SHEET

94  
M:35/92 Moxley-Sprenger House (1899)  
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Section 9:3

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Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. *A Grateful Remembrance: The Story of Montgomery County, Maryland*. Rockville, Md: Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Offutt, William. *Bethesda: A Social History of the Area Through World War II*. Bethesda, Md: The Innovation Game, 1995.

Wright, Gwen; William B. Bushong; and Clare Lise Cavicchi; "Chevy Chase, Maryland, Survey District: Survey Report: Phase Two," Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, June 1997.

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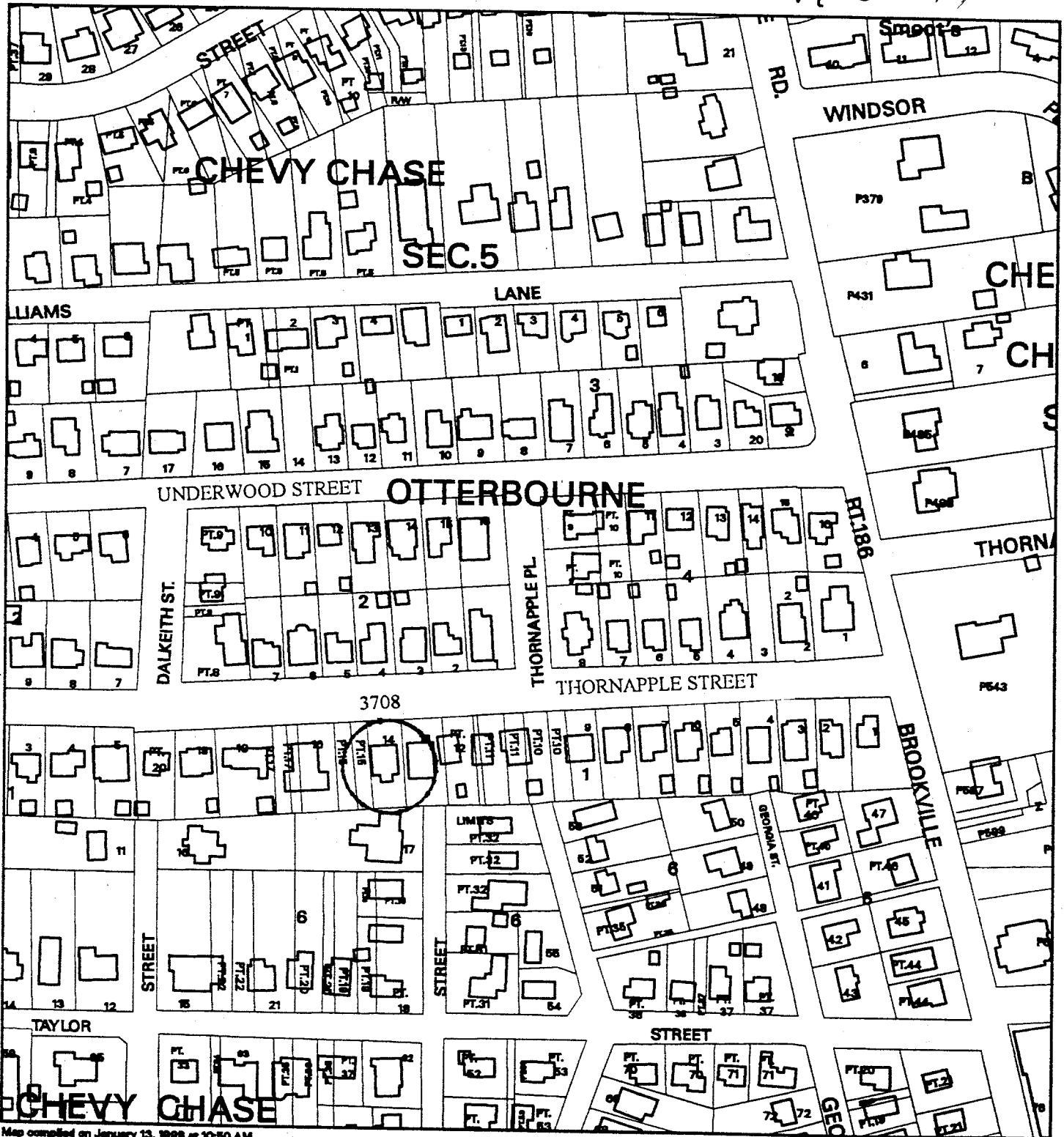
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VICINITY MAP FOR  
**OTTERBOURNE**

M: 35-94



Map compiled on January 13, 1998 at 10:50 AM

**NOTICE**

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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING**  
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
6707 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-4700

Key Map

